Involvement of Customs Officials in Smuggling Activities

2233. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that two Senior Customs officials of the Bangalore Collectorate have alleged the active involvement of a Customs Superintendent and his staff; in large scale smuggling activities off the Mangalore Coast;

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by customs officials;

(c) whether Government have contemplated any action thereon; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The two officers on return from an operation along Mangalore Coast have submitted a report, received in the Collectorate on 14-10-92, alleging that their attempt to effect a seizure on 9-10-92 was foiled by the presence of another officer at the spot, whose actions are said to have alerted two launches, which were to land contraband from sea.

(c) and (d) The matter is being enquired into. However, the Supdt. alleged to have alerted the smugglers by his action, has been transferred out of the area, to an non-sensitive Customs Post.

IDBI loans for purchase of land

2234. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that IDBI loans to Units located in Industrial Estate for outright purchase of land and/or shed are eligible for refinance, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether IDBI has transferred the above referred refinance scheme for purchase of land and shed to SIDBI after bifurcation and constitution of SIDBI for the promotion and growth of small sector, if so, what are the details thereof and what is the maximum/minium amount earmarked under the refinance scheme; and

(c) whether SIDBI has circulated the said proposal/scheme to Commercial Banks, if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) have informed that the loans granted to units located in industrial estates for outright purchase of land and/or sheds are eligible for refinance assistance from IDBI. The following proposals are eligible for such assistance :—

(i) Existing units which are already occupying sheds in an industrial estate on rental or hire purchase basis, and decide to purchase them on an outright basis.

(ii) Existing units proposing to shift their activities to other industrial estates to avail of better facilities extended by such estates.

(b) and (c) Consequent upon the setting up of the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in April, 1990, IDBI had transferred to it the accounts of refinance assistance to industrial estates exclusively for SSI units. The assistance under the Scheme is extended by SIDBI through State Financial Corporations, State Industrial Development Corporations and commercial banks. Loans obtained for setting up of industrial estates by various types of organisations viz. public or private limited companies, partnerships, corporate bodies promoted by State Governments (like SIDCs) etc. for SSI units whose project cost does not exceed Rs. 300 lakhs are eligible for assistance under the scheme. The minimum and maximum amounts of loan eligible for refinance under the scheme are Rs. 2 lakhs and Rs. 225 lakhs respectively based on a debt equity ratio of 3 : 1.